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KAMALA HARRIS PICKS MINNESOTA GUV TIM WALZ AS RUNNING MATE

The US Vice President has also secured the presidential nomination from the Democratic Party, the first woman of colour to do so

NOMINATION WITH EYE ON SWING STATES

"I'm all in," said Walz, 60, accepting the Harris' nomination for V-P. A military veteran, former public school teacher and six-term congressman, Walz is now serving the sixth year of his eight-year stint as governor of the midwestern US state. Harris expects Walz, a popular leader known for his middle-path approach, will help her win the swing states that can decide the poll outcome

A 'LIBERAL EXTREMIST', QUIPS TEAM TRUMP

- Walz is expected to appeal to the left for championing popular Democratic policies including cannabis legalisation, increasing worker protections, safeguarding abortion rights, and supporting tighter firearm restriction | P12
- In its response, Trump's campaign officials termed Walz a "dangerously liberal extremist" who could double down on the "Marxist" policies of Harris

99%

OF DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE DELEGATES VOTED FOR KAMALA HARRIS

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TIRUCHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI

1. The Zabir International Hotel run by an Awami Party leader on fire after an arson attack in Joshor district of Bangladesh. As many as 24 people were burnt to death in the blaze. 2. A burnt car stands in the vandalised house of former PM Sheikh Hasina in Dhaka. 3. A student controls traffic as police went on strike in Dhaka | AFP

Nobel face to heal riot-torn nation

● Muhammad Yunus to be the chief advisor of the interim govt ● At least 100 people killed in violence after Hasina fled the country ● Worry over the safety of Indians in Bangladesh

YESHI SELI @ New Delhi

NOBEL laureate Muhammad Yunus will lead the interim government of Bangladesh as chief advisor. The decision was taken at a late-night meeting between the key coordinators of the students movement and Bangladesh President Mohammed Shahabuddin. The chiefs of three armed forces and two Dhaka University professors were also present at the meeting held at Bangabhaban (presidential palace) to discuss the current situation and the shape of the interim government.

Earlier in the day, Shahabuddin dissolved Parliament paving the way for an interim government to be formed. The name of Yunus, 84, who is currently in Paris, was proposed by the students. In a video posted on social media on Tuesday, Nahid Islam, one of the coordinators of the students movement, said they want a government headed by Yunus. "No government other than the one proposed by the students will be accepted... no military government, or one backed by the military... will be accepted," he said in the video message.

Yunus, a widely respected microfinance pioneer who is credited with lifting millions out of poverty, has agreed to take up the responsibility. "If action is needed in Bangladesh, for my country and for the courage of my people, then I will take it," AFP quoted him as saying.

Meanwhile, violence continued in Bangladesh a day after the country's longest-serving prime minister Sheikh Hasina resigned and fled to India following protests demanding her ouster. According to report, at least 100 people have been killed since the Monday mayhem, taking the total toll since mid-July to 440. A number of temples, households, and businesses were vandalised, women assaulted, and two Hindu leaders of Hasina's Awami League party were killed, PTI reported quoting sources.

In Delhi, government sources said Hasina will be allowed to stay in India "as long as she wants". Officials said all Indian students studying in Bangladesh have returned, but there is concern about the safety of officials attached with the Indian diplomatic missions there. P9,12

Muhammad Yunus

MAJ GEN AHSAN SACKED

In a major Army reshuffle, Maj Gen Ziaul Ahsan, D-G of National Telecom Monitoring Centre, was sacked and Maj Gen ASM Ridwanur Rahman appointed in his position, local media reported

'HASINA SHOULDN'T HAVE FLED'

Many people in Bangladesh are unhappy with Sheikh Hasina's sudden exit. "A leader's foremost responsibility is to stand by their people during times of adversity," said Professor Tanvir Abir from Dhaka

Concerned over B'desh law & order; Hasina sought to fly in for a short time: Govt

PREETHA NAIR AND RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

AMID continuing political uncertainty in Bangladesh, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said on Tuesday that the situation is still evolving and the government is in close and continuous touch with the Indian community through diplomatic missions. He said the government remains deeply concerned about the law and order situation there.

In suo moto statements in Parliament, Jaishankar said former prime minister Sheikh Hasina had on Monday sought approval to 'come for the moment to India' at a very short notice.

"On August 5, demonstrators converged in Dhaka despite the curfew. Our understanding is that after a meeting with leaders of the security establishment, prime minister Sheikh Hasina apparently made the decision to resign. At very short notice, she requested approval to come for the moment to India. We simultaneously received a request for flight clearance from the Bangladesh authorities. She arrived yesterday evening in Delhi," he said.

He added that the government is in regular touch with the authorities in Dhaka. "I seek the understanding and support of the House in regard to sensitive issues regarding an important neighbour on which there has always been a strong national consensus."

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar makes a statement in Rajya Sabha | PTI

The bulk of the 9,000-odd Indian students in Bangladesh returned home last month.

"In addition to the High Commission in Dhaka, we have Assistant High Commissions in Chittagong, Rajshahi, Khulna and Sylhet. It is our expectation that the host government will provide the required security protection for these establishments." Jaishankar said the government is keeping a close tab on the situation with respect to the minorities there. "There are reports of initiatives by various groups and organisations to ensure their protection and well-being. We welcome that," he said.

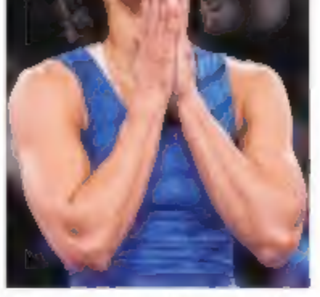
2023: Face of protests; 2024: Face of Indian sport

IN 2023, Vinesh Phogat wanted to throw all her medals into the Ganges and walk away for good. The public face of a protest against one of India's biggest politician-turned-sporting administrators — Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh — for over the last 18 months, Phogat has now completed the set. Asian Games? Tick. Worlds? Tick. Olympics? Tick.

It's not for nothing that sports stories evoke a strange feeling of joy.

Win or lose, it's always beautiful. It can be cathartic too. This story goes beyond the triumph of an underdog. Considering the last one and a half years of turmoil, this is a story that can be exhibited at the Louvre. For a wrestler who decided to shift weight categories from 53kg to 50kg, this victory owes a lot to her belief.

It started in the first bout itself, when she faced Japan's Yui Susaki, a bout where winning was not even considered (coming into the tournament, the Japanese had an 82-0 streak and had never been beaten by a non-Japanese). She had won gold in Tokyo without losing a point.



Vinesh Phogat could become the first Indian woman to win Oly gold | PTI

To put the story into context, this is like India beating West Indies in 1983. Vinesh wrote a eulogy to herself, and set her own narrative on the mat at the Champs de Mars arena. It is more than just poetic that the face of protests against alleged sexual harassment (the case is ongoing) is now the face of Indian sports.

Just one year ago, she was out on the streets, being manhandled. She was broken. She missed out on international competitions for almost the whole of last year. Scarred and bruised mentally, she started to pick up the pieces of whatever was left of her career. On Tuesday, the wrestling hall was stunned to silence. They had come to see Susaki win. The Japanese camp looked dazed. Susaki was looking around the hall, trying to digest a nightmare. For Vinesh, this is what she had been waiting for. A chance. And she capitalised.

When she enters the hall for the final on Wednesday, she will begin a new chapter. This is her moment and she will not let this go. She's now six minutes away from becoming India's first woman to strike Olympic gold.

In Hindu mythology, Ganges has cleansing powers. She will now hope that her statement wins on Tuesday — and with it, an assured silver — has those same kind of restorative benefits to a sport suffering from a crisis. P17

Indexation benefits for property back

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

FACING backlash from investors and property owners, the Centre has decided to give a major relief to real estate investors by allowing them to opt for either a 12.5% long-term capital gains tax rate without indexation or a 20% rate with indexation for property purchased before July 23, 2024.

The respite has been given only to resident individuals and Hindu Undivided Families. For non-resident individuals, companies, partnership firms, and LLPs, the indexation benefit won't be available.

This change has been included in the amendment to the Finance Bill 2024. "In the case of transfer of a long-term capital asset, being land or building or both, by an individual or Hindu Undivided Family (HuF), which is acquired before the 23rd day of July, 2024, the taxpayer can compute his taxes under the new scheme [@12.5% without indexation] and old scheme [@20% with indexation] and pay such tax which is lower of the two," it says.

In her Budget speech, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had said that the tax on LTCG was cut to 12.5% without indexation from 20% with indexation. That meant the indexation would not be available on real estate transactions for assets bought after 2001.

MUDA ROW

Governor summons Abraham, seeks clarification on plea

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

GOVERNOR Thaawarchand Gehlot summoned anti-corruption activist TJ Abraham to Raj Bhavan on Tuesday and sought a clarification on his petition in view of the state's Council of Ministers' advice to withdraw the show-cause notice issued to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah in the alleged MUDA site allotment scam.

The show-cause notice was issued based on the petition by Abraham to the governor, seeking permission to prosecute Siddaramaiah in the alleged scam. The Council of Ministers had advised the governor to withdraw the notice issued to the CM and reject Abraham's petition. Abraham told *TNIE* that he met the governor and gave all clarifications.

Meanwhile, sources in the state government said that they did not receive any notice or communication from Raj Bhavan after the governor returned to Bengaluru from New Delhi on Monday night.

Abraham visited MUDA office in Mysuru on Monday and held discussions with its commissioner AN Raghunandan on the allotment of sites in Mysuru.

Abraham said, "The Council of Ministers decided to appeal to the governor to withdraw the show-cause notice issued to Siddaramaiah. Without considering its merits, the government decided that my petition does not hold water. I did not produce any secondary documents supporting my petition. I went to Raj Bhavan on Tuesday and gave all the clarifications," he said.

On Siddaramaiah and his cabinet ministers calling him a blackmailer, Abraham said, "When I filed a petition against the then chief minister BS Yediyurappa in a land case, Siddaramaiah appreciated it in the House. When I filed a complaint against the then chief minister Jagadish Shettar to the governor, the Congress leaders did not have any problem. But now, they are calling me a blackmailer. I have made my position clear to the governor."

When I filed a petition against the then chief minister BS Yediyurappa in a land case, Siddaramaiah appreciated it in the House

TJ Abraham, activist

All businesses in city to remain open till 1 am

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

IN a move aimed at improving trade and commerce, shops and other business establishments in the city will be allowed to remain open till 1 am from now on. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah announced this in his budget speech in February and the Urban Development Department issued an order on July 29.

The order applies for business establishments in BBMP limits only. This decision will help the state government, which has been looking at various options, to improve its revenue.

Bruhat Bangalore Hotels' Association (BBHA), which has been demanding that hotels and restaurants in the city be allowed to operate round-the-clock, has welcomed the government's decision.

President of BBHA PC Rao said, "Extending the business hours to 1 am is a welcome move. This will benefit the people of Bengaluru in a big way. The decision will also lead to creation of more jobs. All bars and restaurants were allowed to remain open till 1 am only in commissionerate limits. But with this order, all bars and restaurants can be open till 1 am across BBMP limits."

However, some netizens opposed the decision stating that it will disturb peace and harmony in the city.

ADVANI IN APOLLO

Veteran BJP leader and former deputy prime minister L K Advani was on Tuesday admitted to the Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals in Delhi. His medical condition is stable, hospital sources said

Hydro met data on sensitive zones not taken seriously: Expert

BALA CHAUHAN @ Bengaluru

THE worst-ever landslides so far in Kerala on July 30, which killed more than 221 people with more than 200 still missing, after flattening at least three villages, are a "result of multiple factors including geological, anthropogenic, change in land pattern and negligence on the part of local authorities and people", said former director, Geological Survey of India (GSI) and National Institute of Rock Mechanics (NIRM) Dr Pramod Chandra Nawani.

"This region is extremely ecologically sensitive and has experienced calamities earlier also, but not of this scale. It should be cleared of human habitation to prevent future disasters, which are bound to happen because of the nature, age of the rock mass, geological activity and heavy rainfall due to the changed weather conditions," cautioned the noted geologist and rock mechanics expert.

"There are mainly two kinds of rocks in Wayanad -- gneiss and schist. They are of Precambrian origin and ecologically very sensitive. Because of the intensive weathering of these older rocks on the gentle slopes, the bedrock is overlain by a thick layer of 20-25 metres of lateritic soil. Unlike the Himalayas, here the slopes are not steep, because of which they are perceived to be safe and there is a lot of human activity. The main problem of gentle slopes is that the overlying soil and highly weathered rocks lose their shear strength and become cohesion less and the water-charged interface between lateritic soil and bedrock begins to move slowly. This is creep movement, which is not visible to the naked eye. It plays havoc when the area gets incessant heavy rain," said Nawani.

CONTINUED ON: P5

Rescue personnel engaged in search operations at Wayanad | TP SOORAJ